Revised #33

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3534, AS REPORTED

OFFERED BY MS. MOORE OF WISCONSIN

At the end of title VIII, add the following new section:

SEC. 811. RESEARCH ON USE OF MARINE MICROSCOPIC ORGANISMS OR MICROBES THAT DISPERSE OR NEUTRALIZE HARMFUL CHEMICALS INCLUDING OIL.

(a) RESEARCH AUTHORIZED.—As part of research efforts otherwise conducted or supported by a Federal agency, the agency is authorized to conduct or support research into the use of naturally occurring bioremediation products for use as oil dispersants as part of efforts to prepare for or respond to oil spills. Research programs covered by this section include research conducted or supported by the Environmental Protection Agency, the Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) Program and Research and Development Center (RDC) of the Coast Guard, and the Interagency Alternative Technology Assessment Program (IATAP) of multiple Federal agencies.

(b) BIOREMEDIATION PRODUCTS DEFINED.—In this section, the term "bioremediation products" refers to the

use of marine microscopic organisms or microbes, including bacteria, that eat or neutralize harmful chemicals, including oil, in the environment.

(c) RESEARCH PURPOSES.—Research conducted or supported under this section shall examine the following:

(1) Impacts of biodegradation of oil on food web and other environmental risks on affected ecosystems.

(2) The use of biodegradants that are not toxic to microbial flora, human beings and animals, and which are easily biodegradable.

(3) Factors to speed up the process of bacteria breaking down oil.

(4) The extent to which and how bioremediation products encourage the formation of harmful bacteria or algal blooms that can overwhelm ecosystems and deplete oxygen.

(5) Impact of oil on bacteria populations in affected waters.

(6) Promotion of natural biodegradation of oil and identification of any adverse impacts created by using nitrogen, phosphorus and iron to promote such breakdown..

(7) Development of science-based approaches to build knowledge about the exact amount of bacteria

and other bioremediation products that need to be added to contaminated waters, based on oil and microbial concentrations.

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